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COMIC SHOP NEWS™

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Third Army: Major Conflict, General Mayhem

The Third Army is coming.

For months now, DC has laid the groundwork for the upcoming Green Lantern story arc "Rise of the Third Army." With DC issuing marching orders in October, it's time for a few clues as to what readers can expect.

Green Lantern writer *Geoff Johns* offered insight into the focus of the multi-book event. "Absolute power corrupts absolutely—and the Guardians time is finally here," Johns told DC's blog The Source. "The Lantern titles spent the first year of DC Comics—The New 52 re-establishing themselves, but it all comes back together with year two, starting with ***Green Lantern #0*** and leading into October's #13's—which share an amazing cover by *Ivan Reis*.

"In October, the Guardians' Third Army rises to replace the Green Lantern Corps—but *how* is horrifying and *why* will change the Guardians and their ancient mission forever. As we discover what the Third Army actually means, our strongest Lanterns are targeted for absolute destruction. From Atrocitus to Guy Gardner to our newest Green Lantern from Earth—who may have been wrongly chosen—all their darkest secrets and failures will come to light. What is Sinestro's ultimate fate? Who is this new Green Lantern, and why was he chosen? What is the Third Army? What will Atrocitus sacrifice to take on the Guardians? What will Larfleeze give up to find the one thing he wants? What happens to Guy Gardner when he's targeted after Hal Jordan? And, most importantly, who is the First Lantern?"

Green Lantern Corps writer *Peter J. Tomasi* offered a few details regarding the impact of "The Third Army" on his title. "The Guardians and the Third Army want to break the Green Lantern Corps -- and they've now got their sights on Guy Gardner and John Stewart!" Tomasi said. "The question is not *if* the Guardians can accomplish their mission, but how horribly will they shatter our ringslingers' lives?"

Green Lantern: New Guardians writer *Tony Bedard* discussed the impact "The Third Army" will have on Kyle and his crew. "In ***Green Lantern: New Guardians***, Kyle Rayner has gathered a team of Lanterns from all seven colors of the spectrum. As the Third Army strikes, Kyle must combine all seven shades of power within himself. A bigger and badder lineup of New Guardians will push Kyle to become our secret weapon against the onslaught of the Third Army."

So how does "Rise of the Third Army" affect ***Red Lanterns?*** "The Red Lanterns are continuing their mission to bring bloody vengeance to an unjust world when they run into—or are run into—a mysterious enemy with no mouth and a curious resistance to death," writer *Peter Milligan* said. "One Red Lantern succumbs to this new adversary, while Atrocitus finds a way to fight back—which entails returning to a place of great pain and associating with an ancient nemesis."

To call attention to the four books in this major crossover storyline, artist *Ivan Reis* has created a four-cover spread that will form one huge interconnected image when the quartet of titles are placed side-by-side. "This was the first time in my career that I've illustrated four interconnecting covers," Reis told The Source. "It's also the second time I've done a four-page spread—the first one was in ***Blackest Night***. That one had just twelve characters, so I loved returning to the Green Lantern universe to work on this image. I had too much fun working on these hundreds of characters."

Geoff Johns lays the groundwork for "The Rise of the Third Army" in ***Green Lantern #13,*** which reaches comic shops on October 3rd. From there, the story continues into ***Green Lantern Corps #13*** on October 10th, ***Green Lantern: New Guardians #13*** on October 17th, and ***Red Lanterns #13*** on October 24th.

Marvel NOW! and Later

What happens after ***Avengers Vs. X-Men?***

Well, NOW!

Marvel NOW! kicks off in October with the launch of twenty-one first issues—one a week from early October through February. It all begins with the debut of ***Uncanny Avengers #1,*** a bold new series by *Rick Remender & John Cassaday* featuring a new team comprised of members of both the Avengers and the X-Men. It's not just a new team—it's also a new look for many of Marvel's most established heroes, and a new group dynamic. From there, the relaunch will expand to include such established titles as ***Thor, Captain America, Iron Man, Hulk, Spider-Man, Wolverine, The Fantastic Four,*** and many others.

"There's never been a better time to check out comics than Marvel NOW!" *Axel Alonso*, Editor in Chief, Marvel Entertainment, said on Marvel's website. "This isn't a reboot or a reimagining—Marvel NOW! is all about looking *forward*—building on our rich history of great stories and delivering new ideas."

Uncanny Avengers #1 find the Avengers and X-Men joining forces to overcome the greatest challenge either team has ever faced—a menace so devastating that neither can afford to do it alone! Of course, the only way they're going to succeed as a team is if they can put their ***Avengers Vs. X-Men*** past behind them and unite under the leadership of Captain America.

From there, Marvel NOW! expands over the next few months to encompass such titles as ***All-New X-Men #1*** by *Brian Michael Bendis & Stuart Immonen*, which brings the five original X-Men to the present-day, where they must come to terms with what the future holds for them; ***Avengers #1 by*** *Jonathan Hickman & Jerome Opena*, a biweekly series with a huge cast of characters and a blend of ensemble-cast adventures and cosmic drama; and ***New Avengers #1*** by *Jonathan Hickman & Steve Epting*, a monthly series that closely ties in with events in ***Avengers.***

"We brought fans the biggest comic book event imaginable in ***Avengers Vs. X-Men,*** and now we're taking the Marvel Universe to an exciting new place, beginning with ***Uncanny Avengers #1,***" *Tom Brevoort*, SVP, Executive Editor, Marvel Entertainment, said. "If you're a long-time fan, all the stories you've read will give you even more enjoyment of what's happening now—we're not abandoning our past. But if you're a new reader, this is where you're going to learn just why Marvel comics are unlike anything else you've ever read. And no character is left unaffected by Marvel NOW!."

The print edition of each Marvel NOW! title will include a digital download code for a free copy of the comic on IOS and Android devices. In addition, each first issue will be supplemented with special augmented reality content that works in conjunction with Marvel's AR app; this bonus content includes cover recaps, behind the scenes features, and more.

"This is the natural next step of the Marvel ReEvolution, as we evolve every facet of Marvel publishing," explained *Joe Quesada*, Chief Creative Officer, Marvel Entertainment. "Now our print comics leap into the future with a cinematic new look for our covers, exciting new designs for our biggest characters and stories that will send you on the kind of journey you can only get at Marvel."

Uncanny Avengers #1 is slated for October 10th release.

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

Multiversity to Become a Reality in 2013?

At Glasgow Comic Con, *Grant Morrison* reported that his long-awaited ***Multiversity*** project is tentatively on schedule for 2013 release. As the event title indicates, the Morrison-written project will focus on parallel realities. Morrison described ***Multiversity*** as "a nine issue series that reintroduces the whole concept of the DC multiverse." ***Multiversity*** is the title for the frame series that begins and ends the event, while *Frank Quitely* is joining Morrison for ***Pax Americana***, offering a different take on the Charlton characters (the same heroes who inspired ***Watchmen***). Other books in the line include ***Society of Superheroes***, a pulpish version of the DCU; ***The Just***, focusing on celebrity young heroes; ***Thunderworld***, offering a different look at the Shazam! family; and ***Mastermen***, featuring a twisted version of the Justice League.

Intriguingly, Morrison said he was inspired by the classic "Flash of Two Worlds" in ***Flash #123*** to have the various alternate realities linked by comic books (in that classic Flash story, Barry Allen was influenced by the Jay Garrick Flash adventures he read in comic books as a child, which meant that he knew all about Jay when he crossed over into Earth 2). "I thought, 'Wouldn't it be great to have all these worlds communicate with each toher using comics that are published in each reality, which happens to be the stories of all the other realities," Morrison said, adding that he "made up seven different comic companies, and the whole thing is cross-referenced..."

Look for more info about ***Multiversity*** over the coming months!

Harvey Nominees Announced

The 2012 Harvey Awards final ballot has been released; the winners will be selected by vote of comic book professionals, with results announced on September 8th at the Baltimore Comic-con.

This year's nominees include:

Best Letterer

- *Chris Eliopoulos*, ***Fear Itself***, Marvel Comics
- *Laura Lee Gulledge*, ***Page by Paige***, Amulet Books
- *Todd Klein*, ***SHIELD: Architects of Forever***, Marvel Comics
- *David Lanphear*, ***Secret Avengers***, Marvel Comics
- *Jason Shiga*, ***Empire State: A Love Story (Or Not)***, Abrams ComicArts

Best Colorist

- *Elizabeth Breitweiser*, ***Captain America and Bucky***, Marvel Comics
- *Francesco Francavilla*, ***Black Panther: The Man Without Fear***, Marvel Comics
- *Sunny Gho*, ***Artifacts***, Top Cow
- *Dave McCaig*, ***The Magdalena***, Top Cow
- *Dave Stewart*, ***Hellboy: The Fury***, Dark Horse

Best Syndicated Strip or Panel

- ***Bizarro***, *Dan Piraro*, syndicated by King Features Syndicate
- ***Cul De Sac***, *Richard Thompson*, syndicated by Universal Press Syndicate
- ***Doonesbury***, *Garry Trudeau*, syndicated by Universal Press Syndicate
- ***Mutts***, *Patrick McDonnell*, syndicated by King Features Syndicate
- ***Pearls Before Swine***, *Stephen Pastis*, syndicated by United Feature Syndicate

Best Online Comics Work

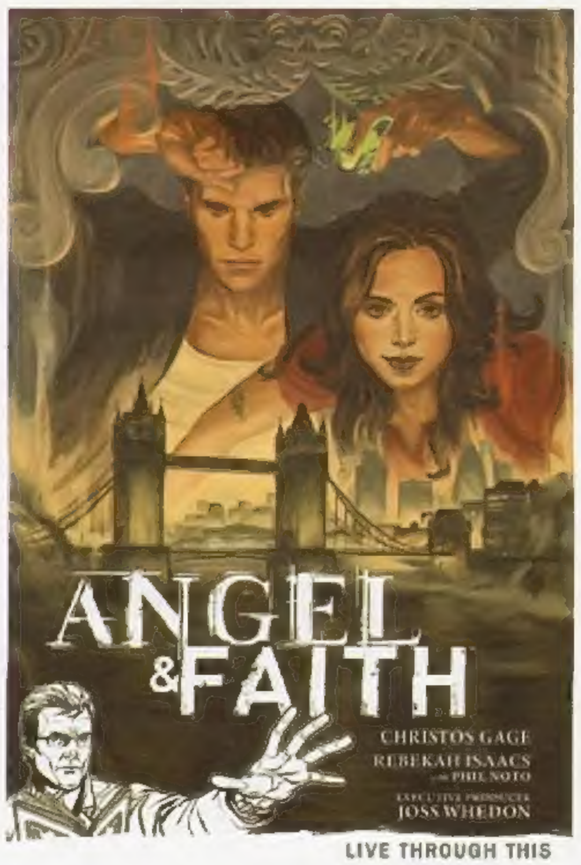
- ***Battlepug***, *Mike Norton*, battlepug.com
- ***Bucko***, *Erika Moen & Jeff Parker*, buckocomic.com
- ***Delilah Dirk and the Turkish Lieutenant***, *Tony Cliff*, delilahdirk.com
- ***Gronk***, *Katie Cook*, gronkcomic.com
- ***Hark! A Vagrant***, *Kate Beaton*, harkavagrant.com

Best American Edition of Foreign Material

- ***Adventures of Herge***, Drawn & Quarterly
- ***The Killer Vol. 3: Modus Vivendi!***, Archaia Entertainment
- ***The Manara Library Vol. 1: Indian Summer and Other Stories***, Dark Horse
- ***Onward Toward Our Noble Deaths***, Drawn & Quarterly
- ***Single Match***, Drawn & Quarterly

Best Inker

- *Laura Lee Gulledge*, ***Page by Paige***, Amulet Books
- *Mark Morales*, ***Thor***, Marvel Comics
- *Sal Regla*, ***Magdalena***, Top Cow
- *Joe Rivera*, ***Daredevil***, Marvel Comics
- *Jason Shiga*, ***Empire State: A Love Story (Or Not)***, Abrams ComicArts



Best New Series

- *Angel & Faith*, Dark Horse
- *Animal Man*, DC Comics
- *Daredevil*, Marvel Comics
- *Last Mortal*, Top Cow
- *Ozma of Oz*, Marvel Comics
- *Rachel Rising*, Abstract Studio

Most Promising New Talent

- *Nick Bradshaw*, ***Astonishing X-Men***, Marvel Comics
- *Nathan Edmondson*, ***Who Is Jake Ellis?***, Image Comics
- *Laura Lee Gulledge*, ***Page by Paige***, Amulet Books
- *Justin Jordan*, ***The Strange Talent of Luther Strode***, Image Comics
- *Sara Pichelli*, ***Ultimate Spider-Man***, Marvel Comics

Special Award for Humor in Comics

- *Kate Beaton*, ***Hark! A Vagrant***, harkavagrant.com; print edition by Drawn & Quarterly
- *Evan Dorkin*, ***Milk and Cheese: Dairy Products Gone Bad***, Dark Horse
- *Jeff Kinney*, ***Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever***, Amulet Books
- *Roger Langridge*, ***Snarked***, Boom
- *Lela Lee*, ***Fairy Tales for Angry Little Girls***, Abrams ComicArts

Best Original Graphic Publication for Young Readers

- ***Anya's Ghost***, First Second
- ***Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever***, Amulet Books
- ***Fraggle Rock***, IDW
- ***Mystic***, Marvel Comics
- ***Ozma of Oz***, Marvel Comics
- ***Snarked***, Boom

Best Graphic Album Previously Published

- ***Big Questions***, Drawn & Quarterly
- ***Dark Tower Omnibus***, Marvel Comics
- ***The Death Ray***, Drawn & Quarterly
- ***Echoes***, Top Cow
- ***PS Magazine: The Best of Preventive Maintenance Monthly***, Abrams ComicArts
- ***SHIELD.: Architects Of Forever***, Marvel Comics

COMIC SHOP NEWS

Published weekly since 1987 by Comic Shop News, Inc.

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EDITORS

Cliff Biggers
Ward Batty

Editorial Office
2770 Carillon Crossing
Marietta, GA 30066
cliffbig@comicshopnews.com

Business Office
3577-A Chamblee-Tucker Rd. #215
Atlanta, GA 30341
(770) 939-1364
wbatty@csnsider.com

www.csnsider.com
twitter.com/csnsider

Printed by Transcontinental Interglobe, Beauceville, QC, Canada

SPIDER-MAN BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

SO YOU THINK CLOWN-9 MIGHT ATTACK THE THEATRE AGAIN?
WELL, HE HATES THE DIRECTOR FOR FIRING HIM— AND JERICHO FOR REPLACING HIM—
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 7-9
AND HE MAY WANT VENGEANCE ON YOU, TOO, HONEY!
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Best Anthology
- *Dark Horse Presents*, edited by various, Dark Horse
- *Flight #8*, edited by *Kazu Kibuishi*, Villard Books
- *Jim Henson's The Storyteller*, edited by *Nate Cosby*, Archaia Entertainment
- *Shame Itself*, edited by *Tom Brennan*, Marvel Comics
- *Someday Funnies*, edited by *Michael Choquette*, Abrams ComicArts

Best Domestic Reprint Project
- *Blackjacked and Pistol Whipped: A Crime Does Not Pay Primer*, Dark Horse
- *The Comics: The Complete Collection*, Abrams ComicArts
- *Definitive Flash Gordon And Jungle Jim*, IDW
- *Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse*, Fantagraphics
- *Walt Simonson's The Mighty Thor Artist's Edition*, IDW

Best Cover Artist
- *John Tyler Christopher*, ***Artifacts***, Top Cow
- *Marcos Martin*, ***Daredevil***, Marvel Comics
- *Paolo Rivera*, ***Daredevil***, Marvel Comics
- Mark Simpson (Jock), ***Detective Comics***, DC Comics
- *J.H. Williams*, ***Batwoman***, DC Comics

Best Biographical, Historical, or Journalistic Presentation
- ***Alan Moore: Storyteller***, Universe Books
- ***The Comics Journal***, Fantagraphics
- ***Genius Isolated: The Life and Art of Alex Toth***, IDW
- ***Government Issue: Comics for the People, 1940s-2000s***, Abrams ComicArts
- ***PS Magazine: The Best of Preventive Maintenance Monthly***, Abrams ComicArts

Special Award for Excellence in Presentation
- ***Jim Henson's Tale of Sand***, designed by *Eric Skillman*, Archaia Entertainment
- ***PS Magazine: The Best of Preventive Maintenance Monthly***, selected by *Eddie Campbell*, Abrams ComicArts
- ***Richard Stark's Parker: The Martini Edition***, designed by *Darwyn Cooke*, IDW
- ***Someday Funnies***, edited by *Michael Choquette*, Abrams ComicArts

- ***Walt Simonson's The Mighty Thor Artist's Edition***, edited by *Scott Dunbier*, IDW

Best Graphic Album (Original)
- ***Empire State: A Love Story (Or Not)***, Abrams ComicArts
- ***Habibi***, Pantheon Books
- ***Infinite Kung Fu***, Top Shelf Productions
- ***Jim Henson's Tale Of Sand***, Archaia Entertainment
- ***One Soul***, Oni Press
- ***Page by Paige***, Amulet Books

Best Continuing or Limited Series
- ***Atomic Robo and the Ghost of Station X***, Red 5 Comics
- ***Daredevil***, Marvel Comics
- ***Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever***, Amulet Books
- ***Echoes***, Top Cow
- ***Rachel Rising***, Abstract Studio

Best Writer
- *Joshua Fialkov*, ***Echoes***, Top Cow
- *Laura Lee Gulledge*, ***Page by Paige***, Amulet Books
- *Jeff Lemire*, ***Animal Man***, DC Comics
- *Jason Shiga*, ***Empire State: A Love Story (Or Not)***, Abrams ComicArts
- *Mark Waid*, ***Daredevil***, Marvel Comics

Best Artist
- *Paolo Rivera*, ***Daredevil***, Marvel Comics
- *Chris Samnee*, ***Captain America and Bucky***, Marvel Comics
- *Jason Shiga*, ***Empire State: A Love Story (Or Not)***, Abrams ComicArts
- *Craig Thompson*, ***Habibi***, Pantheon Books
- *J.H. Williams*, ***Batwoman***, DC Comics

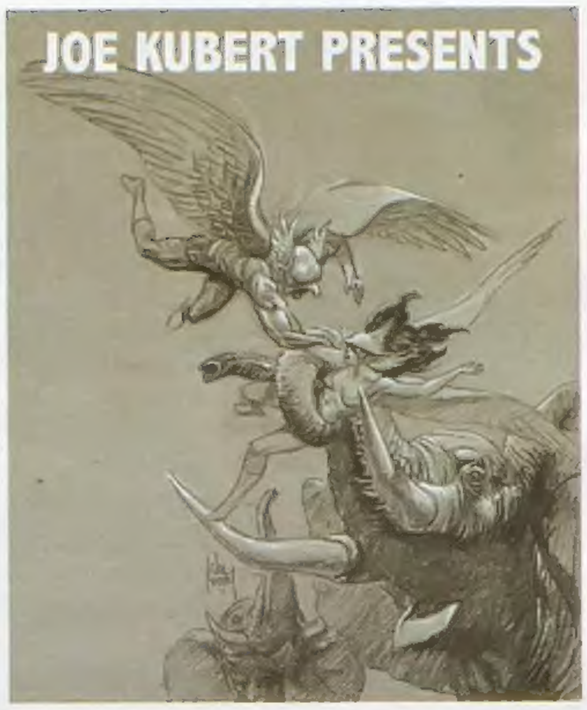
Best Cartoonist
- *Kate Beaton*, ***Hark! A Vagrant***, harkavagrant.com; print edition by Drawn & Quarterly
- *Jeremy Haun*, ***Pilot Season: The Beauty #1***, Image Comics
- *Jeff Kinney*, ***Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever***, Amulet Books
- *Roger Langridge*, ***Snarked***, Boom
- *Comfort Love & Adam Withers*, ***Rainbow in the Dark***, uniquescomic.com/rainbowinthedark
- *Craig Thompson*, ***Habibi***, Pantheon Books

Best Single Issue or Story
- ***Daredevil #7***, Marvel Comics
- ***Echoes #5*** Top Cow
- ***Ganges #4***, Fantagraphics
- ***The Homeland Directive***, Top Shelf Productions
- ***Jim Henson's Tale of Sand***, Archaia Entertainment
- ***Optic Nerve #12***, Drawn & Quarterly
- ***Zorro Rides Again #1***, Dynamite Comics

CSNsider

- *Chris Roberson* and *Alex Ross* are joining forces for the first issue of ***Masks***, an all-star pulp-esque crossover saga from Dynamite Entertainment that will feature the Shadow, the Green Hornet, the Spider, Zorro, Miss Fury, the Black Bat, and others. This is the first full interior painted work by Ross since ***Justice*** at DC. For all you *CSN* readers who asked us why none of these heroes took part in the Dynamite ***Prophecy*** crossover series—well, now you know what Dynamite was saving them for!

- *John Layman*, best known for his work on the offbeat fan-favorite ***Chew***, is joining artist *Jason Fabok* to chronicle the adventures of the Dark Knight beginning in ***Detective Comics #13*** in October. ""Obviously, this is a happily surreal and exciting turn-of-events for my career," Layman said on DC's ***The Source***. "Not only is this my first work within the DC Universe, but I get to work on one of DC's undisputedly coolest and highest-profile characters. I'm going to take a look at the role of criminal organizations within Gotham City, hopefully from a perspective that does not get considered very often (if at all). From the symbiotic relationship a master criminal must have with Gotham in order to survive, to the lowly, often faceless criminal underling hoping to rise up the ranks. All that, plus Batman's gonna play with a bunch of crazy new toys and kick all kinds of butt."
- Comics legend *Joe Kubert* helms the six-issue anthology series ***Joe Kubert Presents***, which launches in late October. The 48-page premiere issue will lead off with a Hawkman story written and illustrated by Kubert (who



supplied the art for the first six Hawkman adventures in the Silver Age ***Brave & Bold #s 34-36 & 42-44***). The first issue will also include an Angel & Ape story by *Brian Buniak* and a new tale of the ***USS Stevens*** by *Sam Glanzman*, who returns to comics after far too long an absence. Later issue will also include Kubert stories featuring Sgt. Rock and the Redeemer, along with new creations Spit and the Biker. "I've been given the privilege to design the kind of comic book that I would enjoy reading, and one in which I'd like to participate," Kubert said.

- Black Lightning and Blue Devil make their first New 52 appearances beginning in October's ***DC Universe Presents #13***, in a team-up tale written by *Marc Andreyko* and

A NUT LIKE HARDY LAUREL MIGHT THINK YOU BETRAYED HIM!
BECAUSE I STAYED WITH THE SHOW WHEN HE WAS FIRED?
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illustrated by *Robson Rocha*. The five-parter focuses on the reluctant partnership of two very different heroes who actually might make a great team if they can avoid killing one another! Artist *Brett Booth* redesigned both heroes for this storyline.

•*J.H. Williams III & W.Haden Blackman* present the first Batwoman/Wonder Woman teamup in ***Batwoman #13.*** "We're super excited to be tackling Wonder Woman for a bit in the upcoming arc,". Williams said on DC's ***The Source.*** "But also feel a sense of trepidation and responsibility, with her probably being the most iconic female hero of all time in comics. We needed to approach her with reverence and respect. And also wanted to give her a sense of purity in how she is drawn, something clear in her appearance, overt and forward...

"Setting her next to Batwoman produces fascinating juxtapositions of their styles and nature of their characters—Batwoman being shadowy and a bit withdrawn, Wonder Woman being bold and vibrant. They do have things in common with their sense of purpose, yet also things that make them quite different from each other, and them coming together brings out complementary aspects much in the same way Batman and Superman do for each other..."

•*Tony S. Daniel,* whose work has been seen recently on ***Detective Comics,*** is signing on as guest artist for ***Justice League #s 13 & 14,*** which introduces the legendary villain the Cheetah to the New 52. "I'm thrilled and honored to again work with *Geoff Johns* on this ***Justice League*** arc," Daniel said. "It's going to be a lot of fun and I can't wait to work on my favorite characters..."

"Tony and I will be re-introducing one of DC's iconic villains - the Cheetah - and uncovering her mysterious connection to Wonder Woman and the Justice League," added Johns. "For me, the Cheetah is up there with Black Manta, Sinestro and Captain Cold as one of the most iconic villains in the DC Universe, and she'll become a major villainous force in 2012 and beyond..."

•*Ann Nocenti* is taking over as series writer of ***Catwoman*** beginning with September's #0.

•DC has cancelled orders for ***THUNDER Agents Volume 2 TP;*** there are no plans to resolicit, unfortunately.

ARCHER & ARMSTRONG #1

Fred Van Lente (W); Clayton Henry (A)

(Valiant JUN121322 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Obadiah Archer was raised and trained to defeat the 10,000-year-old immortal known as Armstrong... little did he imagine that he would soon be joining forces with him to confront a centuries-old conspiracy...

Why Should You Care?

Talk about saving the best for last—Valiant has already premiered three great series (***X-O Manowar, Harbinger,*** and ***Bloodshot),*** but the eccentric and action-packed ***Archer & Armstrong*** is the most sorely mixed of all the original Valiant titles!

AVENGERS VS X-MEN #9 (OF 12)

Jason Aaron (W); Adam Kubert (A)

(Marvel JUN120592 $3.99)

AVENGERS VS X-MEN #10 (OF 12)

Ed Brubaker (W); Olivier Coipel (A)

(Marvel JUN120599 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Avengers launch a daring raid on the X-Men's prison to rescue their captive members. Meanwhile, alliances begin to shift as the true nature of the Phoenix becomes apparent. But what leads Hope and the Scarlet Witch to join forces?

Why Should You Care?

The most ambitious of all Marvel events continues—and if you've read the Marvel NOW! story on page one of this issue, then you know that big things are coming from this superhero slugfest!

BEFORE WATCHMEN: DR MANHATTAN #1 (OF 4)

J. Michael Straczynski (W); Adam Hughes (A)

(DC JUN120134 $3.99)

BEFORE WATCHMEN: RORSCHACH #1 (OF 4)

Brian Azzarello (W); Lee Bermejo (A)

(DC JUN120129 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Witness the earliest days of the most powerful being in the Watchmen Universe—and then, return to 1977 to learn what pivotal events made Rorschach the man he became in *Watchmen.*

Why Should You Care?

Talk about saving the best for last! Presenting new stories set in *Alan Moore & Dave Gibbons'* Watchmenverse was an intimidating challenge, but the creators of these stunning new series have risen to the occasion, producing some of the best work of their career.

BLACK KISS II #1 (OF 6)

Howard Chaykin (W/A)

(Image JUN120423 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The sequel to the legendary ***Black Kiss*** is actually a prequel of sorts—a tale that begins in New York City in the early part of the 20th Century as it explores the story behind the events of the original series.

CSN TOP

Why Should You Care?

Comics' ultimate erotic thriller, the original ***Black Kiss*** outdid cinema's ***Basic Instinct*** in edginess and raw sexual tension. Now *Howard Chaykin* has come up with a tale that can live up to the ***Black Kiss II*** name—and you can be sure that it's going to have everyone talking!

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER: SPIKE #1 (OF 5)

Victor Gischler (W); Paul Lee & Andy Owens (A)

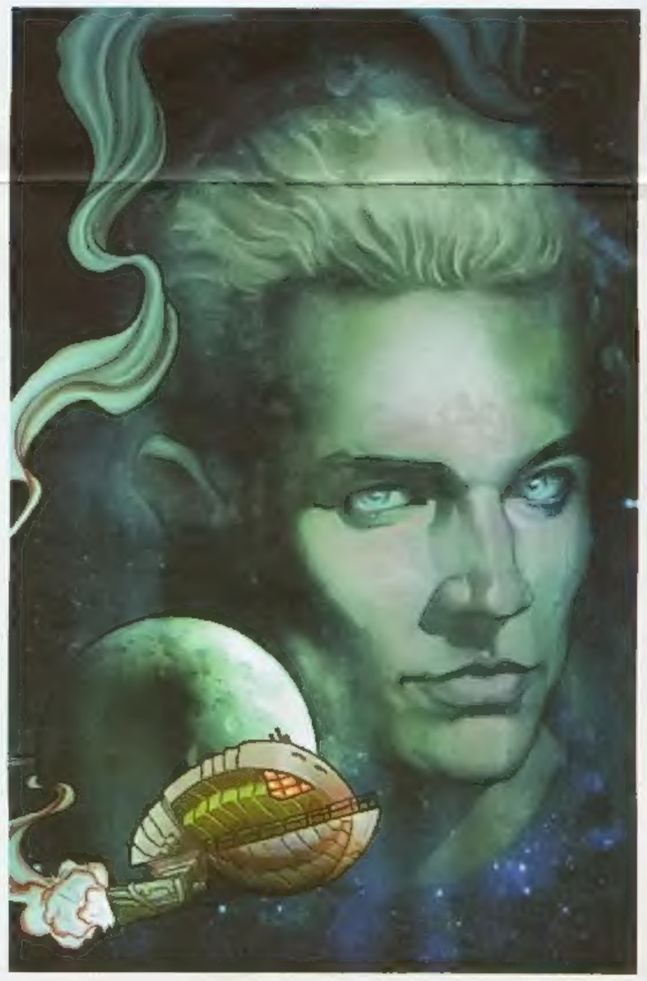
(Dark Horse JUN120014 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Falling in love with Buffy changes a man... and a vampire. Spike, no longer the fearsome vampiric villain he once was, is forced to look into his own past to discover what kind of man—or vampire—he hopes to become.

Why Should You Care?

At long last, the last part of the *Buffy* mythos returns to Dark Horse, becoming a pivotal final piece in *Joss Whedon's* grand BTVS puzzle.



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IT WAS JUST A RHETORICAL QUESTION, ROBBIE!
WOW! I DIDN'T THINK YOU KNEW SUCH BIG WORDS!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 7-11
PARKER! WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
DIDN'T ANYONE TELL YOU ABOUT THE BIRDS AND BEES?

COMICS: AUGUST

DARK SHADOWS/ VAMPIRELLA #1

Marc Andreyko (W); Patrick Berkenkotter (A)

(Dynamite JUN121014 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The disappearance of a family friend leads Barnabas Collins from the eerie town of Collinsport to the seedy underworld of New York City, where he soon crosses paths with Vampirella as she embarks on a hunt of her own.

Why Should You Care?

Two of popular culture's best-known contemporary vampires meet up in the first *Dark Shadows* crossover adventure in the horror series' four-decade-plus history.

FIRST X-MEN #1 (OF 5)

Christos Gage & Neal Adams (W); Neal Adams (A)

(Marvel JUN120677 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Think that Angel, the Beast, Cyclops, Iceman, and Marvel Girl were the first X-Men? Think again! Wolverine, Sabretooth, Professor Xavier, and the man who would become Magneto are joined by other mutants in this adventure that shows how the X-Men concept originated, and why mutants are so mistrusted.

Why Should You Care?

Neal Adams, who illustrated on the most legendary Silver Age runs of the *X-Men* in Marvel history, returns to the title—but not to the characters with whom he is most closely associated. Instead, he is joined by writer *Christos Gage* to present a story set in the past that has deeply rooted connections to the modern mutant universe.

IDOLIZED #1

David Schwartz (W); Micah Gunnell (A)

(Aspen JUN120827 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

What a world filled with superheroes look like? Far too much like this one, complete with its own reality shows, Superhero Idol. A girl named Joule hopes to become the next Idol... but it turns out that the secrets that she's hiding may lead to her shocking downfall.

Why Should You Care?

The deconstruction of the superhero mythos continues as creators show us how much—and how little—our world might change if superpowered beings were a part of our celebrity culture. This intriguing series explores the difference between super *powers* and super *heroes*... and believe us, there's a much bigger difference than you might have imagined!

IT GIRL & THE ATOMICS #1

Jamie S. Rich (W); Mike Norton (A)

(Image JUN120428 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Madman, Snap City's favorite heroine is ready for her own crimefighting adventures as she confronts the Skunk the man who murdered her sister.

Why Should You Care?

Mike Allred may not have time to do as many Madman Universe tales as we'd like, but he's done the next-best thing: he's hand-picked creators who can play in his superhero toybox, then given him some of his brightest and shiniest toys to see what they come up with!

JUSTICE LEAGUE #12

Geoff Johns (W); Jim Lee (A)

(DC JUN120142 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Justice League struggles to stay together as they combat their newest foe—an adversary who can turn their own losses and sorrows against them!

Why Should You Care?

Their first arc featured one of DC's most powerful villains, but this story continues the rollout of a major new bad guy who can stand right alongside Darkseid, Lex Luthor, and the Joker in the bad guy hall of fame! And just wait 'til you see the final page of this issue!

PATHFINDER #1

Jim Zubkavich (W); Andrew Huerta (A)

(Dynamite JUN121004 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

A warrior, a sorcerer, and an elven rogue embark on a quest to save the world from an evil menace that threatens to establish itself anew, changing the world in dark and horrifying ways.

Why Should You Care?

Skull Kickers creator *Jim Zubkavich* ventures into the world of the best-selling RPG with this grand fantasy adventure filled with the iconic characters of fantasy gaming. And for gamers, there's another bonus: bonus items that can be used in ***Pathfinder*** game play, including maps, character profiles, and more.

ROCKETEER: CARGO OF DOOM #1 (OF 4)

Mark Waid (W); Chris Samnee (A)

(IDW JUN120315 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Cliff Secord dons his rocketpack and takes to the skies again, soaring over Los Angeles harbor to investigate a recently-arrived ship and hits mysterious cargo. Soon, the Rocketeer will have to deal with villains intent on stealing his jetpack, a secret identity in jeopardy, and much more.

Why Should You Care?

While IDW has presented a number of short tales of the Rocketeer in their ***Rocketeer Adventures*** limited series, this marks the first original Rocketeer series since the passing of *Dave Stevens.* Can *Mark Waid & Chris Samnee* deliver the goods? Oh, yeah...

STAR WARS: LOST TRIBE OF THE SITH #1 (OF 5)

John Jackson Miller (W); Andrea Mutti, Pierluigi Baldassini (A)

(Dark Horse JUN120043 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

On a planet ruled by a lost tribe of Sith, the throne holder is about to be challenged by a power-hungry Sith rebel from the slums... and a thwarted royal Sith princess!

Why Should You Care?

John Jackson Miller continues to explore the saga of the lost tribe with a new limited series that complements his recently-released prose collection ***Lost Tribe of the Sith—The Collected Stories.***

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STEED AND MRS PEEL ONGOING #0

Mark Waid (W); Steve Bryant (A)

(Boom JUN120905 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

John Steed and Emma Peel are back in action, saving Britain and thwarting evil in their inimitably clever, stylish manner in this new series—and their first adventure pits them against the Hellfire Club!

Why Should You Care?

This may have been the summer that the comic book Avengers conquered the silver screen, but fans of this beloved television series are sure to be just as thrilled that television's Avengers are set to invade the comic book racks after far too long an absence! Even better, their new adventure is written by *Mark Waid*, a man who is equally adept at plot *and* characterization, so you know he'll do Steed and Peel right!

UNDERWATER WELDER GN

Jeff Lemire (W/A)

(Top Shelf JUN121298 $19.95)

What's the Scoop?

A diver and underwater welder is used to dealing with the pressures of deep-sea work... but he's far from prepared for the pressures of impending fatherhood. Soon he finds himself pulling away from his wife and son and diving more deeply into his work... until a strange event changes the course of his life forever.

Why Should You Care?

Jeff Lemire, the acclaimed creator of *Essex County* and *Sweet Tooth* and the writer of *Superboy, Animal Man, Frankenstein—Agent of SHADE, Justice League Dark*, and other New 52 projects, returns to his roots with a complex graphic novel .

FYI: Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

BIG BIG OVERSTREET PRICE GUIDE VOL 42

(Gemstone JUL121097 $45.00)

After an absence of several years, the ultra-utilitarian spiralbound edition of the Price Guide—the ultimate "working copy"—is back!

TEACHING COMICS & GRAPHIC NARRATIVES SC

(McFarland MAY121435 $45.00)

McFarland Publishing continues to expand its library of insightful analyses of comics with this volume that explores how comics and graphic narratives can be useful primary texts and learning tools in college and university classes. (Look how far we've come since the days when teachers would confiscate comics in class!)

WE GO POGO: WALT KELLY, POLITICS, & AMERICAN SATIRE HC

(University Press of Mississippi JUN121416 $65.00)

Kerry D. Soper presents a comprehensive study and critical appreciation of *Walt Kelly's* work as an animator, a cartoonist, and a social commentator.

COMICS ABOUT CARTOONISTS
STORIES ABOUT THE WORLD'S OLDEST PROFESSION
SPY RING
KIRBY • DITKO • KURTZMAN • EISNER • SCHULZ • HERRIMAN • McCAY • SEGAR • BUSHMILLER • GROSS • DISNEY • BRIEFER • WOLVERTON • COLE • SIEGEL & SHUSTER
CRAIG YOE

Collected Cool: August's Best Reprint Editions

COMICS ABOUT CARTOONISTS HC

(IDW JUN120411 $29.99)

We all love stories *by* cartoonists, but this book focuses on stories *about* cartoonists. Features work by such luminaries as *Jack Kirby, Steve Ditko, Jack Cole, Dick Briefer, Winsor McCay, Chester Gould, Sheldon Mayer, Milton Caniff, Ernie Bushmiller, Basil Wolverton, Siegel and Shuster, Will Eisner, Elzie Segar*, and *Harvey Kurtzman*.

FLASH OMNIBUS BY GEOFF JOHNS HC VOL 3

(DC APR120254 $75.00)

DC's comprehensive reprinting of the ***Flash*** work of the ultra-influential and best-selling writer continues with this collection of *The **Flash** #s 201-225* and the closely-related *Wonder Woman #214*.

HOLE OF TANK GIRL SLIPCASED HC

(Titan MAY121286 $99.99)

This oversized collection of the classic Hewlett and Martin Tank Girl comics will have you saying "tanks for the memories." Features additional materials including original art, unseen Hewlett pages, a 'lost' original Tank Girl story, and the first new Hewlett Tank Girl artwork created in over fifteen years.

INVISIBLES OMNIBUS HC

(Vertigo/DC APR120288 $150.00)

The entirety of Grant Morrison's offbeat, complex, and unpredictable ***Invisibles*** is collected in a single volume.

MUCH AS IT HURTS ME TO SAY IT, I'M SORRY I YELLED AT YOU!
OH, THAT'S OKAY. I NEVER LISTEN TO YOU.
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
7-13
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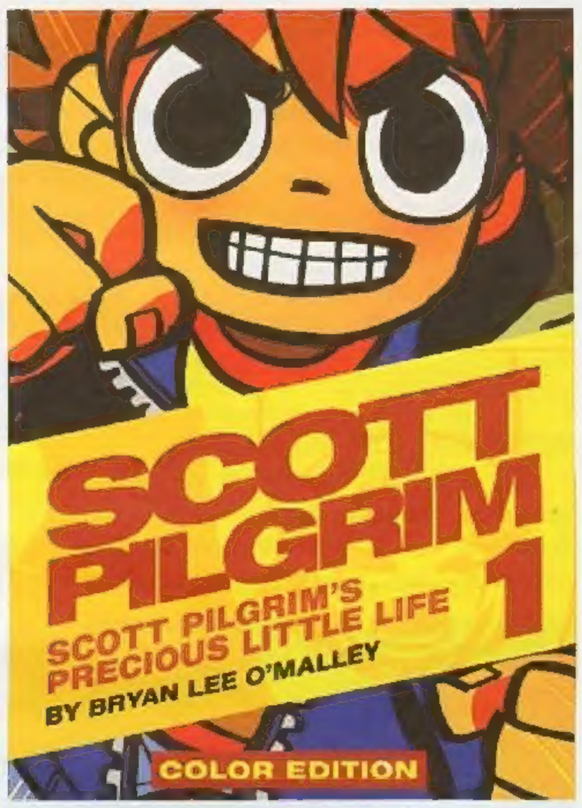
ROBERT CRUMB SKETCHBOOKS 1982-2011 6 VOLUME SET

(Taschen MAY121408 $1,500.00)

It's beautiful, but you'll need deep pockets if you want a copy of this six-book boxed set printed from the original art. Each set of this 1,000-copy limited edition also includes a signed color art print of a Crumb original.



SCOTT PILGRIM COLOR HC VOL 1 (OF 6): PRECIOUS LITTLE LIFE

(Oni MAY121234 $24.99)

Bryan Lee O'Malley gives you a reason to reacquire all six volumes of the Scott Pilgrim saga: he's presenting the entire run in full color beginning with this fall's ***Volume One***—and he's adding previously unpublished extras and bonus materials.

SHOWCASE PRESENTS TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED TP VOL 1

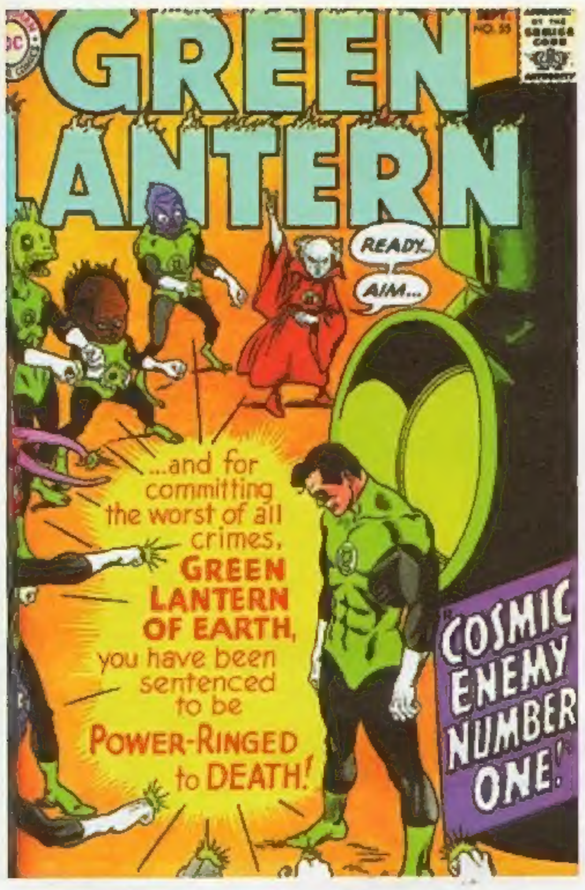
(DC MAY120296 $19.99)

Classic SF and offbeat fantasy tales by such greats as *Otto Binder, Ruben Moreira, Mort Meskin, Sheldon Moldoff, Bernard Baily, Nick Cardy, Jim Mooney*, and *Jack Kirby* are the highlight of this collection of the 1950s ***Tales of the Unexpected #s 1-20***.

SUPERMAN: ACTION COMICS HC VOL 1—SUPERMAN: MEN OF STEEL

(DC APR120245 $24.99)

Grant Morrison's pivotal New-52-reshaping tales from ***Action #s 1-8*** are collected in this hardcover.


GREEN LANTERN
READY...
AIM...
...and for committing the worst of all crimes, GREEN LANTERN OF EARTH, you have been sentenced to be POWER-RINGED to DEATH!
COSMIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE!

GREEN LANTERN ARCHIVES HC VOL 7

(DC JAN120308 $59.99)

Some of the final *Gil Kane* Green Lantern tales are compiled in this collection of Silver Age ***Green Lantern #s 48-57***.

GREEN LANTERN/ GREEN ARROW TP

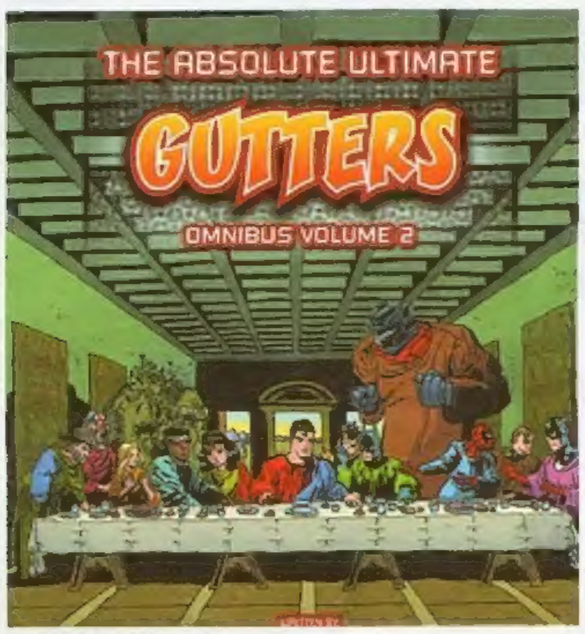
(DC MAY120290 $29.99)

Collects the entirety of the historic GL/GA saga by *Dennis O'Neil, Neal Adams* & others.

GRENDEL OMNIBUS HUNTER ROSE TP VOL 1

(Dark Horse FEB120053 $24.99)

The first of four volumes presenting *Matt Wagner's* entire run of ***Grendel***, following the chronology of the stories.



GUTTERS: ABSOLUTE COMPLETE OMNIBUS HC VOL 2

(Dynamite JUN121082 $39.95)

Another heaping helping of *Ryan Sohmer's* sarcastic look at comics.

Hot Commodities: August's Hottest Merchandising & Collectibles

BEFORE WATCHMEN RORSCHACH STATUE

(DC Collectibles MAY120344 $149.95)

Jean St. Jean does the sculpting honors on this striking depiction of the city's harsh defender—a man who sees the world in the same stark black and white as the colors of his mask.

DARK KNIGHT RETURNS: SUPERMAN VS BATMAN STATUE

(DC Collectibles MAY120345 $299.95)

The most pivotal scene in *Frank Miller's* legendary limited series is recreated in three dimensions in this striking statue.

MARVEL GIRL ORIGINAL STATUE

(Bowen MAR121668 $225.00)

This 12" sculpture by *Mike Busanelli*, produced to Bowen Designs rigorous standards, depicts Jean Grey as she first appeared in the Silver Age X-Men—and as she's about to appear in ***All-New X-Men!***

Check 'Em Out: Comics You Should Be Reading!

ADVENTURES OF A COMIC CON GIRL #1 (OF 3)

(Antarctic JUN120772 $3.99)

Follow Dana on her misadventures in and around the comic convention scene in this *roman a clef* series by *Jon Solo & Dana Braziel-Solvy*.

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #6

(Marvel JUN120611 $3.99)

Thanos claims Earth as his own as the cosmic Avengers tale by *Brian Bendis & Mark Bagley* continues... and it also features the next big stars of the silver screen, the Guardians of the Galaxy!

DAREDEVIL #16

(Marvel JUN120655 $2.99)

Nelson/Murdock no more? Foggy's discovered a secret Matt's been keeping—and he doesn't take it well! But it's certainly no secret that under writer *Mark Waid*, ***Daredevil*** is one of Marvel's best books!

FLASH #12

(DC JUN120158 $2.99)

FLASH ANNUAL #1

(DC JUN120160 $4.99)

Francis Manapul & Brian Buccellato set up The Rogues as a team as the next major storyline begins...and if one Rogue is a challenge, just imagine how much worse it will be when the Flash has to face them all!

HAWKEYE #1

(Marvel JUN120659 $2.99)

Can Marvel's amazing archer hit a bullseye with his own ongoing series? He certainly can, if *Matt Fraction & David Aja* have anything to say about it!

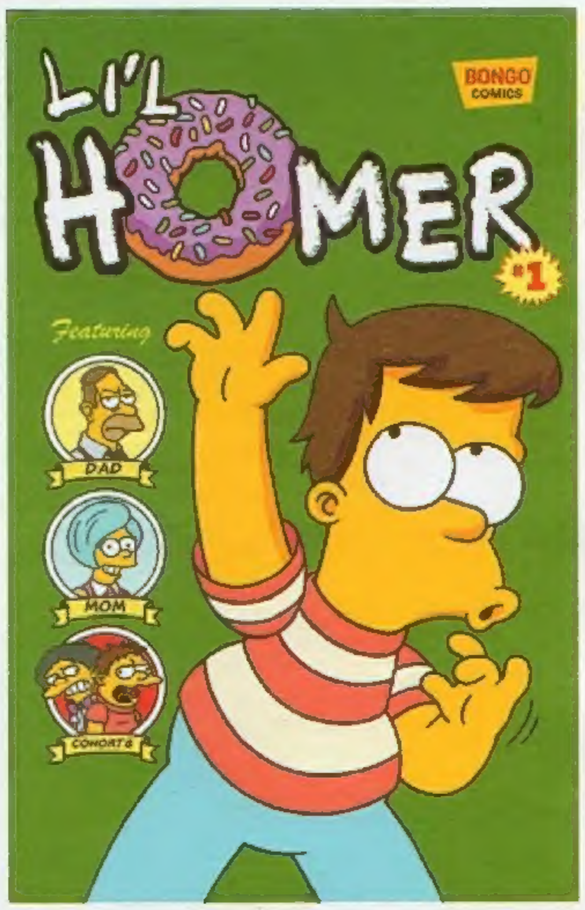
JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL #12

(DC JUN120146 $2.99)

JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL #1

(DC JUN120147 $4.99)

Justice League International comes to a startling end this month—but this *isn't* a cancellation driven by sales numbers. Instead, the shocking events of these issues reveal why the book has to go away... and offers hints as to what the future will hold for these characters.



LI'L HOMER #1

(Bongo JUN120898 $2.99)

Presenting the adventures of Homer Simpson as a young boy! And by the time it's over, you'll realize just how much Bart has inherited from his father...

LOVE AND CAPES: WHAT TO EXPECT #1 (OF 6)

(IDW JUN120384 $3.99)

Can superheroics and parenthood mix? Find out in this new series by *Thomas Zahler* that reveals how Mark and Abby's lives change when a baby enters the picture.

PHANTOM LADY #1 (OF 4)

(DC JUN120226 $2.99)

The female Freedom Fighter debuts in her own miniseries by *Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, & Rich Perotta.*

THUN'DA #1

(Dynamite JUN121011 $3.99)

A soldier finds himself trapped in a lost world of dinosaurs and other strange creatures in *Robert Place Napton & Cliff Richards'* modern-day recreation of *Frank Frazetta's* 1950s classic—and just in case you never saw the original, each issue will include classic Frazetta reprints as well!

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THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE BACK! I DIDN'T GO OUT — JUST LIKE YOU SAID!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 7-14
BUT NOW I MUST GO TO THE THEATRE!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD SKIP TONIGHT, HONEY.
PETER PARKER! YOU KNOW THE SHOW MUST GO ON! — EVEN IN SPITE OF MANIACAL CLOWNS!
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GRANT MORRISON

SUPERMAN

ACTION COMICS

RAGS MORALES WITH ANDY KUBERT

VOL. 1: SUPERMAN AND THE MEN OF STEEL

A HARDCOVER
GRAPHIC NOVEL COLLECTION OF THE
BEST-SELLING NEW SERIES

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DC COMICS™

THE NEW 52!

AUGUST 2012